



Tees Wide Safe Place Scheme - Role of Police

What is a Safe Place Scheme?

Safe Place Schemes are places in the community where people who need extra support can go if they need some help. This 'help' can range from a phone call to home to ask a relative to pick them up or help with directions.

Safe Place Schemes can be any community venue, ranging from a library to local businesses. Within Cleveland many local businesses have signed up to the scheme, for example Marks and Spencers have agreed that all their stores will be designated Safe Places.

The idea behind Safe Places is that vulnerable people, typically those with learning disabilities, can use the venues if they are feeling unsafe. This could be for incidents of hate crime, or it could just be that they are feeling vulnerable and need assistance. Not all use of Safe Places will be for offences which would be reported to the police.

The schemes exist nationally across a variety of locations. More often than not just the knowledge of being aware that schemes are in place makes people feel safe and able to go out and about. Many who benefit from the scheme never actually use them directly but the existence of the schemes allows them to lead more independent lives.

How are Safe Place Schemes Recognised?

Schemes can be recognised by the Teeswide Safe Place Logo, as below:



People using the scheme will generally have a card which will have two contact numbers of people who may come and assist them if needed. These contacts will vary person to person and may include family or service providers.

Who is supporting the Safe Place Scheme?

The Safe Place Scheme is being championed by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cleveland, Barry Coppinger. It is also supported by a variety of partnership agencies including Health and Social Care, Cleveland Fire Brigade and Community Safety Partnerships.

There is a local lead in each of the four Local Policing Areas, as follows:

Hartlepool

Jayne Brown
Passenger Transport Services Manager
01429 523526
Jayne.Brown@hartlepool.gov.uk

Middlesbrough

Jane Hill
Safer Middlesbrough Partnership
01642 728112
Jane_Hill@middlesbrough.gov.uk

Redcar and Cleveland

Barbir Noor
Communities Partnership Officer
Redcar Cleveland Borough Council
01642 776931
07747 691794
Barbir.Noor@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Stockton

Paul Green
Adult Strategy Team
Stockton on Tees Borough Council
01642 528458
Paul.Green@stockton.gov.uk

What is the Police role in supporting Safe Places?

Initial Distribution of Information - PCSOs

Within each Local Policing Area there will be a list of venues who have agreed to become designated Safe Places. Neighbourhood PCSOs will be given these lists, and the Safe Place stickers, for them to distribute to the various venues.

PCSOs should:

- Give the venue a sticker.
- Give the venue a briefing note and go through what will be required of them.
- Give the venue a log sheet to record any use of the Scheme.
- Contact Sarah Wilson (1446, sarah.wilson@cleveland.pnn.police.uk) to let her know venue has been visited and sticker is in place.

Service Existing Schemes – PCSOs

PCSOs will have a list of which Safe Place Schemes exist within the wards they cover. They should drop in on these schemes regularly (on a monthly basis) to check for any issues.

The visit should include:

- Checking whether the Scheme has been used since the last visit. If so please take details from the log and send these to Sarah Wilson from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner - sarah.wilson@cleveland.pnn.police.uk, 1446.
- Checking that the sticker is still visible (new stickers can be obtained from the LPA leads as per details above).
- Checking that staff are aware of the Scheme, and briefing any staff that are not.

Enlisting New Schemes – All staff

If any staff are aware of venues they think may wish to be involved in the Scheme, they should give them a Briefing Note and suggest they contact the LPA Lead.

Enlisting New Members – All staff

If any staff are aware of vulnerable people, particularly those with learning disabilities, who they feel could benefit from being a member of the Scheme they should contact the LPA lead who will be able to provide them with membership cards.

Additional Information

More information about the Scheme can be obtained from the LPA leads, as listed above, or from Sarah Wilson, from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner - sarah.wilson@cleveland.pnn.police.uk, 01642 301446.

Details of the scheme and which venues are participating are available on the PCC website (www.cleveland.pcc.police.uk) and the Force website (www.cleveland.police.uk).